

## THE-MAN-ON-THE-CORNER

This is the open season for the lyceum—a plant which thrives luxuriantly in intellectual, and otherwise Washington, from October to June, with more or less benefit to the community. A friend of mine draws a fine distinction between a "lyceum," and a "literary," in that all "literaries" may justly be denominated "lyceums," but he is not sure that all "lyceums" could safely be termed "literary." Anyhow, under either name, we have them abundantly, and they offer for our people, young and old, a medium of instruction in most cases, and at least diversion in others. So rapidly is the number growing that it is with difficulty that suitable presidents can be found for them all—to say nothing of patrons. The various pastors have seen the value to their churches of such powerful organizations as Bethel Literary and the Second Baptist Ly-

and sincere. He must decide knotty problems quickly and fairly, and know who are worth listening to in debate and who should be "squelled." He is responsible for the expenses, and must plan "to make both ends meet" when rain or counter attractions reduce his audiences and anticipated revenues. He must command the respect and support of his executive board, and alloy every ebullition of jealousy or dissension in his flock of male and female assistants, and keep the scales of justice eternally before his eyes.

So, it will be seen that it is no easy matter to supply the extraordinary demand that is now being made upon the presidential market. Those who have made enviable records feel that they have done their full duty, and are either resting upon their laurels,



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A Leading Member of the Bar of the District of Columbia

ceums, and each is eager to plant under his own roof an institution that will draw from five hundred to a thousand people at every meeting. It widens the sphere of the churches influence, and even if not very much money is made, the advertisement is worth a great deal, calling attention to the existence and location of the church, as no other department could do.

It is no "snap" to be president of a lyceum that essays to stand in the front rank. A vast cosmopolitan element must be served, and all tastes must be catered to, yet without destroying the central purpose of the society—and to live it must be sure to have a "central purpose." Speakers of authority must be presented, appropriate music must be supplied, and a range of topics brought forward that are at once timely and phrased in a fashion to interest the classes whose support is expected. New ideas must be evolved, constantly to tickle the popular fancy, and the president himself must possess a magnetic presence, the patience of Job, the diplomacy of a Disraeli, the polish of a Chesterfield, and the judicial praise of a Marshall. He must be able to talk well, but not too much, and to introduce his speakers in a manner that is pleasing, ample

or are content to labor in the ranks, giving the active ones the benefit of their experience. Bethel is well served by Prof F. L. Cardozo, Jr., whose announced program is a wonderful offering of educative and interesting themes by the best minds of the country. Mr. Armond W. Scott enters vigorously upon the work at Second Baptist, backed by a fine reputation as a speaker and manager, and though a new man here, he has earned the good will of all. Mr. J. B. Askins, is doing well at the Odd Fellow's lyceum. Mr. L. C. Moore is building up a following at Mt. Carmel, and Mt. Moriah is gaining in strength. People's has a faithful man in the person, Mr. L. M. King, but it is understood that business will compel him to relinquish the toga, in which event Mr. Roscoe C. Simmons or Mr. W. T. Menard may be induced to assume the mantle. At John Wesley, Mr. John D. Fassett is expected to take the gavel when the new building is ready. Galbraith Chapel, an excellent field, is anxious to launch an up-to-date lyceum, when the right material for a president is found, and the 10th Street Baptist Church is in the same boat. Lincoln Temple, St. Luke's, Vermont Avenue Baptist, 19th street and Plymouth, are yet to be heard from. Taking the situation in all its bearings

the outlook for a profitable season is bright, and the lyceums will thrive—if the field is not overworked and the seed scattered too thick. The Man-on-the-Corner is the friend of the entire "bunch," and will lend a hand all around when wise counsel is needed.

During encampment week I was proud to note the enterprising spirit displayed by our representative business men located in the down town district. All made ample preparations to entertain large crowds. They laid in an enormous stock of goods, and hired additional help, maintaining the latter at a big expense several days ahead of the crowd, in order to have them on hand when needed. Their long heads yielded handsome returns, and not one failed to satisfy all demands despite the presence of the greatest attendance within the history of the Grand Army. Their decorations compared favorably with the best Gaskins and Gaines, and Gray and Castley, showing some particularly beautiful and novel conceptions in electrical effects. Their cuisine surpassed all previous efforts during the week, when less conscientious caterers might have taken advantage of the rush and offered inferior viands. The same is true of the other houses, the Southern Hotel, the Philadelphia House, Woodson's, Brunswick, McKinley, Holmes', and Moore and Prioleau, all of whom increased their facilities and gave excellent service to white and colored alike. Our business folks did themselves proud during gala week, and we are glad they are many hundreds of dollars "to the good."

Along this line it is interesting to observe how neatly our enterprises are keeping pace with the wave of prosperity that the country has felt in the past few years. It is reflected in the enlarged space, elegant fixtures, increased number of helpers, and in the volume and quality of goods handled, whether the institution be a hotel, restaurant, grocery, professional office, dressmaking establishment, bank or an undertaker's shop. A spirit of "hustle" seems to have at last taken hold of us. Not least among the improvements is the presence in every really progressive business place of a telephone. Life is too short to write letters and wait for answers, and vitality is too valuable to waste in running around in person—so the telephone is an indispensable adjunct to any properly equipped place of business—or pleasure, for the first-class clubs have the "hello machine" too.

Speaking of the "hustling spirit," there is Attorney John W. Patterson, a sure enough "hustler from Hustler-ville," yet a perfect gentleman, every inch of him, from his shining silk hat down to his patent-leathers. When you are down town it will pay you to drop in upon him at 407 Seventh street northwest and "look him over." His office is handsomely furnished, and in the line of legal paper he has a store of forms covering every possible branch of jurisprudence, and his library is stocked with the finest assortment of legal works by the best authorities. Books of various kinds for handy reference are at his elbow, and a great dictionary on its stand is within easy reach. He has a private telephone on his desk, and a file case of carefully jacketed and indexed records of his clients is under his eye. A skilled stenographer sits at her desk in an outer room, and when called she takes down in shorthand all interviews upon material points involved in the respective cases. This becomes a part of the history of the case, and is valuable in the event of a controversy or misunderstanding. The furniture is of the most approved modern pattern and an atmosphere of comfort and ease pervades the cosy place. And why not? Mr. Patterson is an exceedingly pleasant gentleman to meet, and he always has a word of cheer for everyone. His annual income is larger than that enjoyed by any other colored lawyer in the District of Columbia, despite the fact, too, that he does more charity work than any other lawyer here. Though carrying a healthy looking bank book, Mr. Patterson spends his money liberally among the institutions conducted by his race, and his check book is a convincing witness of his promptness in meeting financial obli-

## BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATIONS

Of America Use Pe-ru-na For All Catarrhal Diseases.



MRS. HENRIETTA A. S. MARSH.  
Woman's Benevolent Association of Chicago.

Mrs. Henrietta A. S. Marsh, President Woman's Benevolent Association, of 827 Jackson Park Terrace, Woodlawn, Chicago, Ill., says:

"I suffered with la grippe for seven weeks and nothing helped me until I tried Peruna. I felt at once that I had at last secured the right medicine and kept steadily improving. Within three weeks I was fully restored."—Henrietta A. S. Marsh.

Independent Order of Good Templars, of Washington.

Mrs. T. W. Collins, Treasurer I. O. G. T., of Everett, Wash., has used the great catarrhal tonic, Peruna, for an aggravated case of dyspepsia. She writes:

"After having a severe attack of la grippe, I also suffered with dyspepsia. After taking Peruna I could eat my regular meals with relish, my system was built up, my health returned, and I have remained in excellent strength and vigor now for over a year."—Mrs. T. W. Collins.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

gations, as well as of the benefits bestowed upon those he deems worthy of his bounty. Busy as he is, day by day, Mr. Patterson is developing aldermanic proportions, which argues that work doesn't kill, when it is handled systematically and in smooth temper. I expect to greet him as "Judge Patterson" one of these fine mornings. He is all right!

This article should not be closed without referring to Mr. Patterson's new apartments which consists of six elegant connecting rooms, beautifully papered and arranged with electric bells, electric lights, and all modern appertinances. The walls of his rooms are adorned with appropriate pictures, beautifully carpeted, with desks for his two stenographers, and for his two assistants, and his own private room has all the splendor of a king. The public is invited to visit his quarters which is beyond pre-adventure one of the most elegant law offices in the city, and without doubt the finest law office of a Negro lawyer in the United States.

Dr. James H. Harrison, of the Bureau of Statistics, leaves Saturday for his home in St. Louis, Mo., where he will remain during the next two weeks.

Miss Elizabeth F. Goings, of Brooklyn, N. Y., is spending the winter with her sister Mrs. Alfred H. T. Walker, 1737 Oregon Ave., N. W., and will be pleased to have her many friends call.

Among the many visitors to the G. A. R. is Mrs. Rebecca Moten Powell, of Detroit, Mich., who will be the guest of her sisters, the Misses Moten, until Nov. 1st.